

THE HONORABLE ROBERT S. LASNIK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	No. CR19-197-RSL
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING UNOPPOSED
v.	)	MOTION TO SCHEDULE GUILTY
	)	PLEA HEARING VIA
MICHAEL JOHN DEROCHE,	)	VIDEOCONFERENCE
	)	
Defendant.	)	

THE COURT has considered the unopposed motion of the parties to proceed forward with a guilty plea hearing via videoconference and finds that:

(a) Under General Order 04-20, felony pleas and sentencings may proceed by video or telephone if “the district judge in a particular case finds for specific reasons that the plea or sentencing in that case cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice.” A plea hearing in this case cannot be delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice; and

(b) Mr. Deroche would like to plead guilty and resolve the case in a timely fashion; and

(c) Mr. Deroche wishes to enter a plea as soon as possible in light of anticipated delay associated with the COVID pandemic and a desire to alleviate presumptive backlogged court calendars following the COVID recovery process. Mr.

1 Deroche believes that the Court may not be as able to accommodate a timely resolution  
2 of his case in the future as more cases are delayed; and

3 (d) a videoconference guilty plea hearing would avoid further delays in the  
4 ultimate sentencing in this case, which would cause “serious harm to the interests of  
5 justice.” See General Order No. 04-20 (3/30/20).

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8 DONE this 12th day of January, 2021.

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10 ROBERT S. LASNIK  
11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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13 Presented by:

14 /s/ Gregory Geist

15 Assistant Federal Public Defender  
16 Attorney for Michael Deroche  
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